

*as a Retirement present. the Church picked up the mortgage on his new home.*

---



**Rev. Dr. Junius Martin,  
Rector of Christ Church  
1953-1978**

---

**RETIREMENT DINNER**

**February 25, 1978**

---

**RESOLUTION OF WARDENS AND VESTRY OF CHRIST CHURCH**

**WHEREAS**, Reverend Junius J. Martin, D.D. has been the Rector of Christ Church, Frederica, since October, 1953, and

**WHEREAS**, since that time Dr. Martin has served the congregation of Christ Church diligently and faithfully by his unfailing loyalty and witness to the mission of Christ; and

**WHEREAS**, the years have seen Dr. Martin baptise us and our children, teach our confirmation classes; perform our marriages; and bury our dead; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin has faithfully performed his duties as minister of our church, by preaching to us thoughtful and meaningful sermons that never let us be satisfied with the status quo, by visiting with us when we were sick, by counseling with us about our problems and by sharing with us our joys; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin has counseled with and advised our wardens and vestries and helped guide them through the years and has watched our church grow from a church with practically no financial stability to one with a substantial financial endowment which is largely due to his efforts and perseverance; and

**WHEREAS**, we have shared with Dr. Martin the loyalty of his family in that his devoted wife Dorothy has shared his ministry and has been a faithful servant to Christ, and we have had the joy of seeing his sons, Tom and John, grow to manhood in the Glory of God and have shared with him his pride in their life

and achievements; and

**WHEREAS**, for almost 25 years Dr. Martin has been an integral part of the life and history of Christ Church so much that now it is difficult to even think of our church and church life without thinking of Dr. Martin as its center focus; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Martin has submitted his resignation to be effective June 15, 1978, and will now retire from the active ministry and has requested that this Vestry accept his resignation effective that date; and

**WHEREAS**, this Vestry with great reluctance agrees to accept Dr. Martin's resignation since this is his wish and desire.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the resignation of Dr. Junius J. Martin, D.D., is hereby reluctantly accepted by this Vestry effective June 15, 1978.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Vestry and that a copy thereof be furnished to Dr. Martin with the assurance that he has the unending gratitude of the Wardens, Vestry and Congregation of Christ Church, who hope and pray for his continued good health and joy in his days of retirement with the knowledge that this congregation will acquire another Rector but that in our hearts and minds he will never be replaced.







Can a church ever really lose a minister? If by the church we mean that group of people who, despite feelings of inadequacy, wavering faith, personal problems and the certainty of being thought hypocrites by some, continue to go to church, to keep on trying, to keep on with it, then let us say, no, such a congregation cannot lose a minister who has been serving for twenty-five years.

That special group, the congregation, cannot really lose the priest who has preached to them, served them, disturbed them and annoyed them over the years, as certainly as he has comforted and cheered. It should not be hard to see - or easy to forget - that Junius Martin would rejoice to be remembered as disturbing. Priests like that are not lost or forgotten. One continues to ponder their challenges - even their less successful challenges, for the spirit that prompted them - for months, for years of a life that strives to belong to the



church. A congregation may be receptive or unreceptive, bewildered, challenged - even firmly resisting. But a ministry to that church, like matter, can neither be created nor destroyed, only changed in form.

The ministry of Christ Church, Frederica, for a time, was fulfilled by Junius Martin, and was quickened with a particular kind of ongoing life by his service to God as he saw it. As he retires, his congregation, left behind, retains the imprint of his ministry, received in a multitude of effects and reactions, by a multitude of communicants.

At this point, the ministry of Junius Martin, in part, belongs to his congregation. They came to church, laying all other business aside; they heard his weekly, deeply experienced sermons; they worked in his church school, sang in his choir, helped order the church for the worship services, served as vestry and guild members. And all this work, as well as those sermons which searched and moved toward the will of God, are part now of all the people who experienced them.

This priest's efforts, his choices of actions, his Lenten programs, his painstakingly wrought sermons and vigorously managed church - all these things were his effort to lead the life of Christ Church, Frederica. Lead, both in the sense of living it, and of carrying it forward. These things are part now of the congregation which, in his presence, at his side, joined him in wrestling with the angel to secure the blessings of God. Such a ministry is neither serene nor tranquil in the common sense meaning of the terms. But it finds and has great peace.



A congregation might think that this particular priest had no idea what their many problems were - else how could he go on, upbraiding them every week, seeing that they are already troubled and certainly frail? But his answer has been something like this: "It's not that I don't know what your problems are - it's that you don't know what the Big Problem really is." "Come to church," he has said, "Come to church. There God has promised to reveal to us what things really matter, what things should not trouble us as they do, how we triumph, what we hope, and what is God's way of love."

Junius Martin has asked his congregation repeatedly to look away from themselves, and that is a frightening, an unwelcome demand. It hints that there is more to this life, even more to the earthly world than we care to know or acknowledge. When the church-people have looked at Junius Martin, they have been directed away from him and toward his major concern - God's church working in the world. The force of his feeling for the

(Continued on page 4)





## JUNIUS JEFFRIES MARTIN

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Born** Adairsville, Georgia on June 12, 1914

**Parents** William Paul and Julia Abbott Martin

**Education** Adairsville Public School - Graduated from High School in 1931

Young Harris College (Georgia) 1931-33

Wake Forest College (N.C.) 1935 (Magna Cum Laude)

taught English and French in Adairsville High School 1933-35.

Andover Newton Theological School 1936-39

University of the South, Suwanee (awarded degree of Doctor of Divinity honor causa, 1959)

**Married** Dorothy Whitman Gemes June 16, 1937

**Ordained to diaconate** December 21, 1939; to the Priesthood June 24, 1940 at Christ Church, Exeter, N.H. by the Rt. Rev. John Dallas, Bishop of N.H.

**Presented by the Rev. Charles W. F. Smith**, then Rector and later Professor of New Testament at the University of New Hampshire, Durham and as Diocesan Missioner.

**From 1941-43**, Rector of Trinity Church, Hannibal, Missouri

Son, William Thomas Martin, was born in December of 1943.

**From 1943-48**, Rector of the Church of the Apostles, St. Louis, Missouri

**From 1948-53**, Rector of All Saints Church, Brookline, Massachusetts

Son, John Jeffries Martin, born in August, 1951.

**Regular participant in radio panel, Churchmen View the News**, sponsored by the Massachusetts Council of Churches. **Chairman in charge of publicity for the committee on arrangements for the General Convention that met in Boston in 1952.**

**Became Rector of Christ Church, Frederica in October, 1953**

**Served as Rector of St. Ignatius - a parochial parish of Christ Church.**

**Served various terms on Diocesan Council**

**Held chairmanship of the Department of Christian Social Relations**

**Member of Chairman of Bishop's Examining Chaplains**

**Elected; served as delegate to 1955 General Convention in Honolulu; 1967 General Convention in Seattle; 1969 General Convention in South Bend; and 1970 General Convention in Houston.**

**Served as representative of the Diocese of Georgia on the Georgia Council of Churches.**

**Locally, is a member of Rotary International; a member of the Library Board for the St. Simons Island Public Library; and was a member of the Chrysalis School Board, partially sponsored by Christ Church. Speaker to many island groups on religion and history.**

**Grandfather to Paul, born in 1972; and Andrew, born in 1977.**

**Principal hobbies: reading, photography, carpentry and music.**



---

(continued from page 2)

the church has often seemed a thing of ice and fire. Those chilling and blazing visions outside of the warm little climate of human life he has unflinchingly imposed upon his church -- and those things are not easily received.

And so Christ Church has experienced, as one of God's gifts, the ministry from the daily tasks of which, he now retires. Just as the church has in the past, per-

haps, grumbled against the visions with which Dr. Martin confronted it -- so in the future it will find flat and lame any ministry which lacks this element of deep, moving disturbance. Because of this one particular priest, Christ Church will always expect its priest to say again and again, "Here is the turning point, just here God demands that you look up and turn away from your own weary ways. Turn again, arm yourself with reason and faith, and march forth to fight for the good."

---

## A Tribute

When can 25 years be considered a painfully short period of time? When it marks the end of Dr. Martin's distinguished residence as Rector of Christ Church, time is a matter of small consequence. Twenty-five years can but begin to delineate the accomplishments in church character and development which can be traced directly or indirectly to Dr. Martin's leadership.

One of the most visible of these achievements is the serenity of the church service. Graciously donated chancel and lectern appointments created in needlepoint, the rich veneer of newly refinished white pine walls, the noble sounds of the Moller pipe organ, the warm glow of a candlelit altar serve as a beautifully orchestrated pageantry for the Episcopal services. The sermons of Dr. Martin, concerned, intelligent, challenging, act as the cornerstone of this congregation's profoundly moving worship of God.

While visitors and members alike are accustomed to the well-tended condition of the church and grounds, many of the changes and improvements which facilitated this preservation have occurred under Dr. Martin's direction. The Lych Gate, one of the first of many gifts donated by parishoners as memorials, was followed soon after by the Trevandan wall and additions to the parish house. A new sacristy and robing rooms for the clergy were constructed in 1955. Historical markers have been placed on the church property and a new cemetery gate at the rear of the church greatly enhanced that area. Several improvements, including a new roof, were made to the rectory, while central heat and air conditioning and carpeting renovated the church.

Also of considerable importance is the growth in assets or net worth of our church during Dr. Martin's tenure. Starting with an endowment of \$1,500 in 1953, additions over the years now total approximately \$767,000. If one were to add the value of the old Dodge Estate purchased by the church in the late 1950's, it would total nearly one million dollars in worth. This figure does not include church buildings or the grounds on which they are located. This phenomenal growth attests to the selfless leadership of Dr. Martin and the devotion people have to Christ Church.

Our church has grown during the years 1953-1978 from 222 communicants to over 450 at the close of last year. Other church records reveal these statistics: baptisms -- 357; confirmations -- 505; weddings -- 185; young people entering the ministry -- 3. Our Rector would be the first to say that he alone did not accomplish this growth: but that the vestry and all members of the church should be given the credit.

As this congregation reflects tonight on Dr. Martin's years at Christ Church, there will be many memories; of families he has counseled; of young people he has influenced; of the sick and discouraged he has strengthened; of the bereaved he has given peace; of the young minds he has provided growth through our new library and renewed Church School program; and most deservedly, appreciation of a task well done.

---



## Christ Church, Frederica

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GEORGIA

---

VOLUME 5

WINTER, 1978

---





CHRIST CHURCH FREDERICA

To Honor

*The Reverend and Mrs. Junius J. Martin*

RETIREMENT DINNER

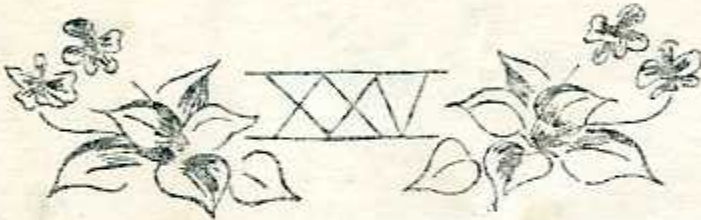
*Saturday, the twenty-fifth of February*

*at six-thirty o'clock*

*Sea Palms Golf and Country Club*

"HOLD ON TO CHRIST, AND FOR THE  
REST, BE UNCOMMITTED."

*Herbert Butterfield*





*CHRIST CHURCH FREDERICA*

*To Honor*

*The Reverend and Mrs. Junius J. Martin*

*RETIREMENT DINNER*

*Saturday, the twenty-fifth of February*

*at six-thirty o'clock*

*Sea Palms Golf and Country Club*

*"HOLD ON TO CHRIST, AND FOR THE  
REST, BE UNCOMMITTED."*

*Herbert Butterfield*



PROGRAM

MASTER OF CEREMONIES.....  
Lt. Gen. Albert Watson II

INVOCATION.....  
The Rev. Thomas Martin

DINNER

SPEAKER.....  
The Rt. Rev. Paul Reeves, D.D., Bishop of Georgia

E.C.W. PRESENTATION.....  
Mrs. D. Lee Krauss, Past President, 1974-1978

ST. IGNATIUS EPISCOPAL CHURCH.....  
Mrs. Mansfield Jackson

"GROWING UP IN THE RECTORY".....  
Mr. John Martin

E.C.W. VICE PRESIDENT.....  
Mrs. James D. Gould III

SENIOR WARDEN, 1978-1979.....  
Charles McMillan

SENIOR WARDEN, 1976-1977.....  
Wallace Harrell

REMARKS.....  
The Rev. Junius J. Martin, D.D.

BENEDICTION.....  
Bishop Reeves



DINNER COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN ----- Mr. Avery Jones

Invitations ----- Mrs. Fred B. Harvey  
Reservations ----- Mr. Eugene Palmer, Jr.  
Publicity ----- Mrs. D. Lee Krauss  
Arrangements ----- Mrs. James Langston  
Decorations ----- Mrs. James D. Gould III,  
Mrs. Henry Godshall, Mrs. Smitty Ledbetter,  
Mrs. Albert Fendig, Sr., Mrs. Hubert Manning.

"TYDINGS" ----- Mrs. Richard Wright,  
Mrs. A. Franklin Burns, Jr., Mrs. Charlotte  
Harrell, Mrs. Morris C. Hoven, Mrs. C. Howard  
Leavy, Jr., Mrs. Richard D. Wright, Mrs. Rex  
J. Ramer.

PROGRAM ----- Mrs. Larry D. Hartsell,  
Mrs. Clifton S. Jones, Jr., Mrs. Edward  
Chapman, Mrs. John H. Howard, Mrs. Rex J.  
Ramer, Mrs. James D. Gould III.



The strawberry is the emblem of the  
righteous man whose fruits are good  
works, and when shown accompanied by  
violets, they symbolize that the truly  
spiritual are always humble.

-- George Ferguson,  
Signs and Symbols in Christian Art



SPECIAL GUESTS

The Right Reverend and Mrs. Paul Reeves,  
Bishop of Georgia

The Reverend and Mrs. Thomas Martin,  
Assistant Rector, Church of the Redeemer,  
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania

Paul Martin, Esquire

Mr. and Mrs. John Martin,  
Teaching Fellows of History,  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Jackson  
Cartersville, Georgia

Mr. and Mrs. Beverly Irwin  
Atlanta, Georgia

Miss Mary Gemes  
Cartersville, Georgia

Mrs. Clara Travor  
Atlanta, Georgia

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Alnutt  
Fairfax, Virginia

Mr. and Mrs. Alva Lines  
Atlanta, Georgia